

Professor Karel Dušek

*6. 5. 1930 – †30. 10. 2020



Karel Dušek received his M.Sc. from Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague in 1953 and his Ph.D. from Institute of Physical Chemistry of Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1958

He joined the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague in 1965 being invited by his former teacher, prof. Otto Wichterle (inventor of hydrogel contact lenses) and here Karel remained active in science till 2020

His very strong international activities include mainly Technical University of Delft, The Netherlands, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA, Kyoto Institute of Technology, University de Pau and Pays d'Adour, France, University of Utah, Salt Lake City and INSA Lyon

★ phase separation
in crosslinking systems

★ discovery of volume phase transition
in gels - theory

★ pioneering theory of branching process
in crosslinking polymeric system

Karel Dušek published about 320 peer-reviewed papers that have received > 10100 citations. The article *Structure and elasticity of non-crystalline polymer networks by K. Dusek and W. Prins*, Adv. Polym. Sci. 1969, 6, 1 is the most cited one amongst Karel papers

His theoretical research was always tightly bound to industrial applications, mainly within his long-term cooperation with companies like DCM and DuPont de Nemours, USA, (since 1987)

He is a founder of the Czech Consortium for Nanostructured and Crosslinked Polymers in 2004 as a partner of Nanofun Poly and founding member of ECNP

He received a number of awards and honors, among them the State Prize of Czechoslovakia (1988), P.J. Flory Polymer Research Award (2004), and International Award of the Society of Polymer Science, Japan (2018)